



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
PRESS SERVICE



WASHINGTON, D. C.

Release - Immediate.

July 20, 1933.

TWO VETERAN SCIENTISTS TO
RETIRE FROM BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Vernon Bailey and Dr. T. S. Palmer
End Notable Services in the
Federal Government

Vernon Bailey and Dr. T. S. Palmer, veteran scientists of the Bureau of Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, will retire on July 31, Mr. Bailey after 46 years service and Dr. Palmer after 44 years.

"The retirement of these biologists, so well known in the scientific world, here and abroad, will be distinctly felt in the Biological Survey," said Paul G. Redington, chief, "but both will continue to be influential in work along lines with which the bureau is concerned. Free from official duties, each has before him much productive effort in the sciences of ornithology and mammalogy and in the conservation and perpetuation of our valuable resources in wild life."

Vernon Bailey

Vernon Bailey, chief field naturalist of the bureau, rated in "American Men of Science" since 1910 as among the thousand leading scientific men of the country, has achieved wide recognition for his studies of the geographic distribution of mammals, birds, and plants. Bureau officials consider his work in building up the Survey's collections and files of information especially noteworthy. Practically every season since Mr. Bailey's first service has been marked by his field work in

some part of the United States, and wild-life studies have taken him to every State of the Union and to Mexico and Canada. He has conducted biological surveys of Texas, New Mexico, North Dakota, and Oregon, and has published reports on the mammals of Glacier National Park, and on the animal life of the Carlsbad Caverns, and on that of Yellowstone National Park. On the pocket gophers and on the ground squirrels of the Mississippi Valley he has prepared special publications based on his field work, and has revised the classification of rodents in these and other genera. Only recently the bureau added to the list of publications written by Mr. Bailey the "Mammals of New Mexico", in its North American Fauna Series. At present, as joint author with Dr. Florence Merriam Bailey, his wife, he has in press a work on the wild life of the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky. His work on Oregon has not yet been published.

Mr. Bailey has also been widely recognized for his efforts in behalf of the humane treatment of animals, especially because of the traps he has invented to capture them alive and unhurt. He designed and perfected the Biological Survey Beaver Trap, now in wide use in connection with restocking operations and also the Foothold Trap, for both of which he has received prizes awarded by the American Humane Association. The Foothold Trap is now being developed for use in capturing a variety of mammals and birds.

A native of Michigan, Mr. Bailey was first employed in the Department of Agriculture as a special field agent in 1887, when he was 24 years old and living in Minnesota. In 1890 he gained his present title of chief field naturalist. From 1906 to 1913 he was in charge of what is now the division of biological investigations of the Survey.

Mr. Bailey is president of the American Society of Mammalogists and a former president of the Biological Society of Washington (D.C.). He is also a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the American

Ornithologists' Union, the American Forestry Association, the Cooper Ornithological Club, and other societies interested in wild-life study and conservation, and of the scientific consulting board of Nature Magazine.

Dr. T. S. Palmer

Dr. Theodore Sherman Palmer is noted for his activities in game protection. He is also widely known among naturalists of this and other countries as a zoological historian and biographer, and as an authority on the nomenclature of mammals. He was chairman of the committee that prepared regulations under the migratory-bird law of 1913, and he also prepared the preliminary draft of the Migratory Bird Treaty of 1916 between the United States and Great Britain. Through his great interest in extending the effectiveness of legislation for bird and game protection, Dr. Palmer on numerous occasions has well served the interests of wild life and of the Biological Survey in drafting and administering protective regulations. He was instrumental in initiating legislation governing importations of game and other wild animals and birds from foreign countries and has cooperated with officials of the Customs Service in drafting regulations. He originated the present system of Federal publication of the game laws and open-season posters and of directories of game-protective officials and organizations, and the numerous official publications of the Biological Survey on trends in game conservation and in legislation for the protection of wild life, some of which have been translated and published abroad. Monumental among his published writings is his "Index Generum Mammalium", issued by the Biological Survey in 1904 as North American Fauna No. 23. He is now completing a supplement to it.

Dr. Palmer, a native of California, was graduated from the University of California in 1888 and came to the Department of Agriculture the following year, at the age of 21. In 1895 he completed medical studies and was granted his M. D. degree by Georgetown University. He early engaged in field studies and has visited

most parts of the United States, and for 5 months in 1891, as first assistant ornithologist, he was acting in charge of the Death Valley Expedition. He was assistant chief of the Biological Survey from 1896 to 1902, and from 1910 to 1914 and acted as chief over extended periods, including the time when the chief, Dr. C. Hart Merriam, was in Alaska as a member of the Bering Sea Commission. From 1900 to 1916, Dr. Palmer was in charge of the bureau's division of game preservation, and since the passage of the Lacey Act in 1900 he has been in charge of the regulation of the importation of foreign birds and mammals.

Since 1917 Dr. Palmer has been secretary of the American Ornithologists' Union, in which capacity he is noted for his comprehensive statements regarding the membership and accomplishments of the Union, published annually in its journal, The Auk. Dr. Palmer is a Fellow of the Union, and also of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the California Academy of Science. He has been first vice president of the National Association of Audubon Societies since 1905, and since 1924 has been president of the Audubon Society of the District of Columbia. He has been serving as vice president of the American Society of Mammalogists since 1927, having declined, after election in 1933, to serve as president. Dr. Palmer is a corresponding member of several foreign ornithological societies, including the Ornithologische Gesellschaft, Bavaria, and the Royal Hungarian Institute of Ornithology, and is an honorary member of the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire (London), the Transvaal Game Protective Society (South Africa), and the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners. He is also a member of the American Bison Society, the Society of American Foresters, the National Parks Association, and many other scientific and conservation organizations.

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